(c) the number of tigers estimated to be residing in the said forest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central assistance released under Project Tiger Scheme upto 1992-93 is Rs. 310.74 lakhs, of which Rs. 306.90 lakhs have been spent by the State Government. The Central assistance released so far during the current financial year is Rs. 22.3950 lakhs.

(c) The estimated number of tigers in this Reserve is 95.

Pending Projects from Andhra Pradesh

630. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the proposals submitted by Andhra Pradesh Government that are pending for Environmental clearance;

(b) since when these are pending; and

(c) at what stage of consideration they are?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) Only one project namely Vemagiri Gas Based Thermal Power Station of Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board received in May, 1993 is pending as the additional information sought by the expert committee has been furnished only recently by the project authorities.

Seizure of Tiger Skins in Delhi

631. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the seizure of tiger-skin in Delhi on August 31, 1993 was the biggest and if so, how many tigers and other wild cats skins were seized;

(b) whether the seizure included the skins and bows of a large number of endangered species; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any gang of illict dealers and poachers was nabbed; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) A large quantity of skin and bones was seized in Delhi on 30.8.1993. Besides tiger skins, the seizure included skins of other endangered species, viz., leopard, black buck etc. The details of the seizures are given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

(c) Two persons have been arrested in the above case and a complaint has been filed in the Court of Law.

Statement

List of Items Seized on 30th August, 1993

1st Seizure :

Tiger Skins	6 No.
Tiger bones	162 Kg.
IInd. Seizure :	
Lizard skins	43
Tiger bone	125 Kg.

Chittal skins	7
Fox skins	8
Otter skins	128
Tiger cubs skins	2
Leopard cat skins	7
Black buck skins	6
Civet cat skins	2
Desert cat skins	2
Jackal skins	1
Leopard paws with claws	50
Fur coat of otter	1

News item under caption 'Doon's Liquor Mafia liquidates green lung"

632. SHRI RAJANI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in the Indian Express of 1st September, 1993 captioned, "Doon's liquor mafia liquidates green lung";

(b) if so, what steps have been taken and what directions issued by Government for preventing indiscriminate denudation of forests and felling of trees by mafia in connivance with Forest Dept. personnel in different States and Union Territories; and

(c) what is Government's assessment about deforestation caused by such activities during the decade 1981—90 and 1991—93 so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India have been forwarding all the complaints received from public relating to illict felling of trees and theft of forest produce to the concerned Governments of the States/Union Territories for enquiry and necessary action. Where allegations of connivance of the personnel of forest department is made action has to be taken by the concerned State/UT Governments after due enquiry. Central assistance is provided to the Government of States/UTs under the scheme "Development of Infrastructure for Forest Protection" for procuring communication and other necessary equipments for effective protection of forests.

(c) The protection of forests is primarily the responsibility of the States/UTs. But assessment conducted by Forest Survey of India based on satellite imageries shows a net increase of 56,000 hectares in the forest area in 1898 over the 1987 assessment.

Eucalyptus Plantation Project

633. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering for holding an enquiry with regard to the Eucalyptus plantation project in